

## **PROCLAMATION**

WHEREAS, falls are the leading cause of injury deaths in Iowa, averaging over 2,000 annually; and

WHEREAS, falls among older adults are a significant problem and pose a major threat to health and independence resulting in high personal and economic direct costs; and

WHEREAS, falls are a contributing factor for nursing home placements, which may end an older citizen's

ability to live independently; and

WHEREAS, ensuring that health care providers screen for fall risk among older adults and provide resource material to older adults, their families and caregivers are steps that can help reduce the number of

injuries due to falls; and

WHEREAS, promoting the use of evidence-based classes to improve strength and balance has been shown to

reduce fall risk among older adults; and

WHEREAS, the Iowa Department of Public Health and the Iowa Department on Aging have fostered

partnerships across the aging network to help with resources and training to prevent falls:

**NOW, THEREFORE, I,** Terry E. Branstad, Governor of the State of Iowa, do hereby proclaim September 23, 2013, as

## FALLS PREVENTION AWARENESS DAY

OF THE STATE AND ON BEIGHT.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I HAVE HERE-UNTO SUBSCRIBED MY NAME AND CAUSED THE GREAT SEAL OF THE STATE OF IOWA TO BE AFFIXED. DONE AT DES MOINES THIS DAY OF SEPTEMBER IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD TWO THOUSAND THIRTEEN.

TERRY E. BRANSTAD GOVERNOR OF IOWA

ATTEST:

MATT SCHULTZ SECRETARY OF STATE